

With the Author's Compliments

NOTES UPON A PROPOSED

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PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY

OF

WARWICKSHIRE

(READ BEFORE THE BIRMINGHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY,

DECEMBER 11TH, 1889),

BY

W. JEROME HARRISON, F.G.S.,

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"HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY," "PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ALL,"

ETC., ETC.

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The Society meets on the SECOND and FOURTH THURSDAYS in October, November, December, January, February, and March, and on the FOURTH THURSDAY ONLY during the other six Months, at 7.30 p.m., in the Society's Rooms, at the GRAND HOTEL, COLMORE ROW.

The CLUB ROOM is open every week-day, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., where the Photographic Journals may be read, and where Notices may be seen. Discussions are held usually on Tuesday Evenings.

The Annual Subscription to the Society is 10s. 6d., with an Entrance Fee of 10s.

SOME NOTES UPON A PROPOSED PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF WARWICKSHIRE.*

BY W. JEROME HARRISON, F.G.S.,

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE BIRMINGHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY; AUTHOR OF
THE "HISTORY OF PHOTOGRAPHY;" "PHOTOGRAPHY FOR ALL," ETC.

My subject may be considered as an extension of a paper which I read before the Birmingham Photographic Society in June, 1885, on "The Work of a Local Photographic Society."† Permit me to quote two paragraphs from that paper:—

"Within the last few years photography has made a new departure. The introduction of gelatine dry plates and films has made the process so clear and—by comparison—so easy, that photographers have multiplied a hundred fold. Oh! that we could bring back Daguerre with his costly silver plates, which required such tremendous polishing; Fox Talbot with his calotypes, and Scott Archer with his wet collodion plates, silver bath, and travelling tent, which made the landscape-photographer's life a burden to him, and show them our light and complete equipment, with which a man may travel round the world, and leave—if he pleases—his pictures to be developed by his grandchildren, with every assurance that, if preserved with reasonable care, they will turn out all right, even after the lapse of years."

* Read before the Birmingham Photographic Society, December 11th, 1889. Reprinted from the "Midland Naturalist," January, 1890.

† "Photographic News" for July 3rd, 1885.

“ Much useful local work may be done by a photographic society. By securing accurate representations of old buildings we can furnish a record for posterity, whose accuracy cannot be disputed, and whose interest in the future will be great. But I would not only photograph the old buildings—I would secure on rapid plates impressions of the daily appearance of our streets, of the principal lines of thoroughfare, and of the busy crowds by which they are traversed. Even in the half century which has elapsed since the discovery of photography, if such pictures could have been secured of Birmingham at intervals of every five or ten years, what an interest they would have for us to-day! We exclaim at the pleasure it would give us if we could see photographs of Stratford-on-Avon as it was when Shakespeare lived there; but there will come a time when a similar desire will be expressed to see England as it was in 1885; and, fortunately, by the aid of photography, it will be possible for such a desire to be gratified.”

Since the paper from which the above quotations are made was written, I have more than once spoken at meetings of the Birmingham Photographic Society, urging that it was the duty of the Society to undertake local work, such as a photographic survey of the district surrounding its head quarters; and during the present year I have urged that this district should be the county of Warwickshire.

A few weeks ago a deputation from this Society went to Sutton Coldfield, there to address the local scientific society known as the Vesey Club. There again I ventured to air my idea; and it was very warmly taken up by the meeting, and especially by the vice-president of the club (J. B. Stone, Esq., J.P., F.L.S., F.G.S.), who has since become the president of the Birmingham Photographic Society. Encouraged by his support, the following memorial was presented to the Council of the Society:—

“ That the Council be requested to call a special general meeting to consider the feasibility of a photographic survey of Warwickshire, the object being to secure an accurate and unbiassed record of the scenery, monuments, life, natural history facts, &c., of our county as they now exist.”

This was signed by a large number of members, and was laid before the Council of the Society; and it is for its consideration that this meeting has been called. Invitations have been issued to all the photographic, literary, artistic, and scientific societies in the county, and we are much pleased to see their representatives here to-night.

Within the last two years the idea of a local photographic survey has been carried out to some extent by the Boston Camera Club, in America, and by the Birkenhead Photographic Association in England. The Boston Society has secured a number of negatives of what they call "Old Boston;" and from these negatives lantern slides have been prepared, one set of which has just been going the round of the English photographic societies. The Birkenhead Society took up* the archæological survey of the "Hundred of Wirral," a division of Cheshire; and we shall, I believe, see some of their results (in the form of lantern slides) after Christmas.

Other societies—non-photographic—have seen the need and value of photographic records, and have taken steps to secure them. Ever since 1870 the Archæological Section of the Birmingham and Midland Institute has been endeavouring to secure photographs of all local objects which were likely to suffer change—as the old streets of Birmingham, so many of which have been swept away under the Improvement Act—Dr. Priestley's house, Francis Eginton's house (both since pulled down), and many other places of interest. In their excursions they have also utilised the services of their official photographer—our good friend Mr. Harold Baker—and as a result they have now a valuable and most interesting collection of local photographic negatives.

At the Conference of Photographers held in London in 1888, under the auspices of the Camera Club, I advocated the appointment, by Government, of "State photographers, who should be specially charged with the task of obtaining authentic portraits of our great men [and securing pictorial records of historical places and events]. The time must come when the present era will be history, and authentic photographic records will then be invaluable."† In closing the conference, the President of the Camera Club, Captain Abney, F.R.S., etc., said:—"He thought Mr. Harrison's idea of a State photographer a most excellent one."

At the recent meeting of the British Association at Newcastle-on-Tyne (September, 1889), a committee was formed for the collection, preservation, and systematic registration of photographs of geological interest in the United Kingdom; Mr. O. W. Jeffs, 12, Queen's Road, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, being appointed secretary. This committee has just issued a circular asking for the "names of local societies or persons

* See "Photographic News" for May 18th, 1888.

† "Journal of the Camera Club" for March, 1888.

who may be willing to further the objects of the committee in their own districts." As the author of the first book on geology* which was (so far as I know) illustrated by photographs, I feel an especial interest in this scheme, and it is clear that it would be a part of any complete local photographic survey.

A PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.

It is proposed to consider the subject of a photographic survey mainly under two heads:—

I.—Have we, in our neighbourhood, a natural region or district which contains material for the work contemplated under the head of a "Photographic Survey?"

II.—Supposing this to be the case, how should such a survey be organized and conducted?

It may be taken for granted that a Photographic Society, such as our own, will be doing a good and useful work if it endeavour to secure a pictorial record of local objects and events. The question then arises, what is the best area or region to select as the unit of work? I think there can be no question but that—for England at all events—this unit should be the County; or divisions of a county, as the Hundreds. Every Englishman knows his county well; he is familiar with its extent, its boundaries, towns, industries, etc. Men from the same county have a clannish feeling; and when two Englishmen meet abroad, if they are both from the same county they feel almost like brothers. This fact has lately been recognised by Government in assigning territorial designations to all the regiments of our army, so that we speak of the "North Warwickshire Regiment," the "South Essex," etc.

Some have suggested that we should take a certain radius—say twenty miles—from our town, as the area to be studied. This would give us a circle, and would include portions of half-a-dozen counties. But who cares for "the country round Birmingham?" while Warwickshire is a name to conjure with!

Again, we hope that this scheme will be taken up by the hundred photographic societies which now exist in Great Britain. If the unit of work be a circle, then great gaps will be left between the circles; but every one who has

* The Geology of Leicestershire and Rutland; illustrated by twelve photographs (from whole plates). Leicester: J. and T. Spencer, 1877.

played with a "puzzle map" knows that when the counties are fitted together they make up the entire country.

THE COUNTY OF WARWICK.

Let me first endeavour, then, to give you a brief description of the proposed subject of our photographic survey, in order that you may see how worthy it is of your best energies, your utmost exertions. As Wordsworth writes :—

Come forth into the light of things,
Let Nature be your teacher.

"Woody Warwickshire"—"that shire which we the heart of England well may call,"*—lies truly in the very centre of the land; for lines drawn from Berwick-on-Tweed to the Isle of Wight, from Dover to the Isle of Anglesey, and from the Severn to the Humber, all intersect in this central county. And Warwickshire forms the watershed, as well as the centre of England. Its southern stream—"the soft-flowing Avon"—passes to the south-west to join the Severn at Tewkesbury; while its northern stream—the Tame with its tributaries, the Rea, Cole, Blythe, etc., runs north-east into the Trent, and so ultimately mingles its waters with those of the German Ocean. In places, the banks of these streams are beautifully wooded (the Cole, for example), affording the most delicious "peeps" as the river meanders; while they are often crossed by old-fashioned bridges, and lined by gnarled willows and osier-beds.

Nowhere does the surface of Warwickshire attain to any great elevation. In the north-east of the county the Harts-hill range, which extends from Atherstone to Nuneaton, does not exceed 600 feet in height, while the Edge Hill range in the south-east barely attains 800 feet.

The area of Warwickshire is 897 square miles, and its population about three-quarters of a million. Panoramic views, embracing large areas, should be taken from all the principal elevations, and from church-towers, etc. In such work, the lighting must be carefully studied; and the use of ortho-chromatic plates, aided by a yellow screen, will sometimes be found an advantage, doing away with the misty or hazy effect, which in this climate almost invariably envelops distant objects. Such "haze effects" are often invaluable to the photographer in giving the idea of distance; but when the object is to get a panoramic map, it is well to be able to remove the hazy appearance at will.

* Michael Drayton, in the "Polyolbion," xiii.

The most marked feature of the county of Warwick at the present day is the prevalence of woods and forests. Fine parks containing much magnificent timber abound, and include about fourteen deer-parks. The hedge-rows everywhere contain well-grown trees, while the hedges of the country lanes are of remarkable height and thickness. The fact is, that all Warwickshire north of the Avon formed part of that mighty "Forest of Arden," which once stretched northwards to the Trent, and included large parts of Worcestershire, Staffordshire, and Leicestershire. The picturesque small town of Henley-in-Arden, and the village of Hampton-in-Arden, still preserve this title, which was the Celtic name for a forest.

PREHISTORIC WARWICKSHIRE.—The name "Arden" thus at once takes us back to a period before the Roman invasion. This part of England was then a dense forest, scantily peopled by the "Ancient British" tribes called the Cornavii and the Wiccii. They were probably herdsmen, grazing their flocks of sheep and herds of cattle or swine in the clearings and glades of the forest which they knew so well. What remains of them to us? Very little, indeed, that is certain. Some of the mounds or tumuli may be the burying places of their chiefs; others, surrounded by oval or circular entrenchments, and occupying hill tops, are remains of their fortresses or camps.

The name of the county and that of its central town—Warwick—may be derived from the Celtic *Gawr*, a fortified place, and *Wiccii*, the tribe by which that high mound which at Warwick overlooks the Avon, was raised and defended.

ROMAN WARWICKSHIRE.—As Julius Cæsar (B.C. 55) did not advance north of the Thames, his famous "Commentaries" tell us nothing directly of Central England. But a later Roman leader, Ostorius Scapula, established a line of forts along the Severn in A.D. 50; and he and his successors during the next four centuries made those famous "Roman roads" which were indispensable to the conquest of the country. Three famous Roman roads run through Warwickshire. The most important is the Watling Street, which extended from Richborough in Kent to Chester. It enters Warwickshire near Rugby, and from thence to Atherstone it separates the county from Leicestershire. At High Cross, about half way between the two towns, the Watling Street is crossed by another Roman road called "The Fosse-Way," which extends thence to Stretton-under-Fosse, in the south-west of Warwickshire, a distance of forty miles. It runs in a nearly straight line, up hill and down dale, with deep

cuttings and many picturesque views; a true "old-world" road, and but little frequented now. Who will walk its length with a camera, and resuscitate the Roman? I knew this "old Fosse Road" well when I lived in Leicester, and antiquaries have traced it all the way from Cornwall to Lincoln.

But the Roman road best known to dwellers in Birmingham is the Icknield Street (or Ryknield Street as it is sometimes called to distinguish it from another road of the same name). It enters the county in the south at Bidford, and runs nearly due north through Birmingham (where one long street still bears the name), to meet the Watling Street at Wall (the Roman station of *Etocetum*), near Lichfield. For three miles in Sutton Park, on the north of Birmingham, the line of this fine old road is quite distinct as to direction, width, and level, although it is, of course, grass-covered. Beyond Warwickshire, this Ryknield Street extended to Gloucester and St. Davids in the one direction, and to the Humber and thence to the Tyne in the other.

Besides the Roman roads, practically the only certain traces left of the Romans in Warwickshire are the Roman rectangular camps or fortified stations at Manduessedum (close to Mancetter), and at Oldbury, in the same district; with another at Chesterton, on the Fosse-Way, six miles south-east of Warwick. These camps are well-defined grassy mounds or "walls" of earth, enclosing a large central area. They will not be easy to photograph, and the best time for securing their outlines will probably be either early or late in the day, when shadows will accentuate their outlines.

Other important Roman stations are believed to have existed at *Præsidium* (Warwick), *Tripontium* (Cave's Inn, near Rugby), *Alauna* (Alcester), *Bennones* or *Vennones* (High Cross or Cloudesley Bush).

Roman remains, coins, pottery, etc., have also been dug up at Brinklow, Monk's Kirby, and Wibtoft. These latter relics appear to have been dispersed, and are probably now lost to us. They could all have been preserved and collected for purposes of study by their reproduction by photography. In the Warwick Museum there is a Roman tomb or sarcophagus, found near Alcester.

SAXON WARWICKSHIRE.—The Romans were little more than visitors to Warwickshire, and they probably seldom, if ever, penetrated the recesses of Arden. After their departure in 449 A.D., they were succeeded by the Saxons, who "came to stay." And yet the Saxons cannot be said, in the ordinary sense of the term, to have "conquered" the Midlands. The tribes of Angles (from North Germany), who landed on

our eastern coasts, very slowly advanced inland, and only by slow degrees gained power over, and amalgamated with—rather than subdued—the Celtic inhabitants of Arden.

Warwickshire formed a part of the Saxon Kingdom of Mercia, which flourished under Cridda, Ethelbald, and Offa from the sixth to the ninth centuries; after which the eight Saxon sub-kingdoms (the Heptarchy) united to form the Anglo-Saxon Kingdom (827-1066).

Many of the tumuli or mounds of earth (sometimes so large as to be actually small hills) which stud the surface of Warwickshire, contain the remains of Saxon chiefs; but without actual exploration we cannot distinguish the Saxon from the Celtic tumuli. At Walton, near Wellesbourne, a Saxon grave, which was opened in 1774, contained "three skulls lying in a row, with two Saxon jewels set in gold, one with an opal and two rubies, and the other adorned on both sides with a cross, between two rude human figures, with a sword or lance at the outer hand of each." Iron swords and the iron bosses of shields are also commonly found in Saxon interments; while stone implements, etc., accompany the bones of the Celts.

It is probable that during the next few years many of the as yet undisturbed tumuli will be explored; and it is earnestly to be hoped that photographs will be taken, recording each stage of the operations, and especially as showing the positions of the interred skeletons, whether lying on the side or back, and with legs drawn up or extended, as each of these points appears to have characterised different times and different nations.

Of undoubted Saxon remains we can only point to two places in Warwickshire. The first of these is at Tamworth Castle, just within the north-eastern boundary of the county, where the "herring-bone work" in the base of the lower wall is very characteristic. The second example is at Wootton-Wawen, where the lower half of the church tower is certainly of Saxon masonry. In each of these cases we want photographs taken from a moderate distance, showing the entire building, etc., and also several near views in which each stone would be distinctly represented. The best evidence of the complete colonisation of Warwickshire by the Saxons, consists in the numerous Saxon place-names which still remain. The names of the rivers and hills—as Arden, Avon, Rea, etc.—are certainly Celtic, but most of the towns and villages have the truly Saxon affixes of "ham," "ton," "ley," "thorpe," etc. It is now pretty well acknowledged that the name of our new city—Birmingham—represents the dwelling-

place (*ham*) of the tribe or descendants (*ing*) of Beorm; the said Beorm or Biorn being a Saxon chieftain.

The Danes, who ravaged the east and south of England so unmercifully in the ninth and tenth centuries, are thought not to have advanced beyond Rugby, the termination *by* being distinctively Danish. The gigantic ruddy animal which (carved out in the turf) ornaments the "Vale of Red Horse," near Kineton, in the south-east of the county, may be either of Saxon or of Celtic age; although there is a legend which assigns it to Neville, Earl of Warwick, in the fifteenth century. Neville may perhaps have "scoured" * it.

In the same direction, and just on the county boundary, are the famous Rollright Stones, some of which are seven feet in height. They resemble somewhat the famous stone circles (Druidical) of Stonehenge and Avebury, and are more probably of Celtic rather than of Saxon times.

The famous legend of Lady Godiva belongs to the very close of the Saxon period. Godiva (properly Godgiva) was the wife of Leofric, a powerful Saxon noble who died in 1057. He and his wife richly endowed a monastery and church at Coventry; and Dugdale records that in a stained-glass window in Trinity Church, Coventry, the stout earl and his fair wife are depicted, the former bearing in his hand a scroll with the inscription:—

" I Luriche for the love of thee
Doe make Coventre Tol-free."

As in Leofric's time the population of Coventry was only 350, while the houses were but one storey high, with a door and *no windows*, the legend of "Peeping Tom" is in the highest degree incredible. As a fact, the tale probably originated during the latter part of the seventeenth century. Possibly some future historian will find in "Peeping Tom" the prototype of the man who carries a detective camera.

Many Saxon laws and customs have survived down to our own times; and to the Saxon rulers, in fact, we owe the very outlining of our county, as indicated by the word "shire." They divided the "shire" into large divisions called "hundreds," and in Warwickshire we have:—

- I.—Hundred of Hemlingford, including Birmingham, Solihull, Atherstone, Tamworth, etc.
- II.—Hundred of Barlichway, including Alcester, Stratford, Henley-in-Arden, etc.

* See that capital book, "The Scouring of the White Horse," by Tom Hughes, in which he describes a similar work in Berkshire.

- III.—Hundred of Kington (or Kineton), including Warwick and the south-east of the county.
- IV.—Hundred of Knightlow, including Kenilworth, Rugby, Southam, etc.
- V.—Coventry, with a district around it, known as the "County of Coventry."

It is possible that these "Hundreds" may form convenient sub-divisions for the purposes of our photographic survey; in which case the Birmingham Photographic Society would naturally commence with the Hundred of Hemlingford, whose area is about one-fourth (say 220 square miles) of that of the entire county. It is somewhat unfortunate that our city of Birmingham should be situated on the extreme north-west margin of the county; but the "county," as a unit, is so much superior to any other that it must, perforce, be adopted.

MEDIEVAL WARWICKSHIRE.—With the conquest of England by the Normans, in 1066, the written history of Warwickshire may practically be said to commence. In the Domesday Book we have a survey of the county, which includes the names of all the possessors of land, with the area and value of their possessions. With the Normans, too, we get the first important building operations—they erected many churches and castles.

The monuments of the mediæval age (which extended from the eighth to the fifteenth centuries) include the most striking buildings in Warwickshire. The great castles of Warwick and of Kenilworth were, until the invention of gunpowder, practically impregnable fortresses; while Maxtoke Castle, if smaller, is even more interesting, for its "moat and outer walls, and its old iron-bound gate and gatehouse are scarcely changed during six hundred years." Astley Castle, near Nuneaton, dates from the thirteenth century, when a castle was a fortified house with a moat. Tamworth Castle we have already mentioned.

The close of the mediæval period saw also the destruction of the monasteries and other religious houses by Henry VIII. (1539); but Maxtoke Priory, Polesworth Nunnery (near Tamworth), Merevale Abbey (near Atherstone), the Whitefriars Monastery at Coventry, etc., still remain (in a more or less delightfully ruinous and picturesque condition) to testify to the religious zeal of our ancestors.

And the old churches: how delightful they are! Shall it not be our pleasure to record their every detail and architectural feature? so that when the hand of the "restorer" is

laid upon them there shall be evidence retained of their original structure and condition. To take but two cases. "As an example of a preceptory and church of the twelfth century, of which neither restoration nor neglect have changed any important feature, Temple Balsall is unrivalled in Warwickshire, and not surpassed in any part of England." Let the Beauchamp Chapel (1465) in St. Mary's Church, Warwick, be our second example. It is, without doubt, as a sepulchral chamber, "one of the most famous in the kingdom," containing among others the tomb of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, the cost of which alone exceeded £40,000 of our money.

Of moated houses, and picturesque old mansions, Warwickshire has many. Compton Wynyates (1510) is described by Mr. Timmins as "a marvellous and harmonious combination of the best and most artistic work in brick, stone, and wood. Its variegated colours of bricks, its richly-moulded brick chimneys, its exquisitely carved gables and beams and wainscoting, its bold and vigorous and delicate stone carving, its noble rooms and great hall, with minstrels' gallery, its ninety rooms, with a secret chapel in the roof, its long lines of dormitories for soldiers, its venerable moss-covered and picturesque quadrangle, combine a series of charming views which are unequalled in Warwickshire and unsurpassed elsewhere."

Of slightly earlier date is the old fortified manor house of Baddesley Clinton—"charmingly picturesque, for it has a fine ancient moat surrounding its gray walls, and quaint gables and chimneys, and its pretty garden parterres surrounded on three sides by the rooms of the house."

Guy's Cliffe, two miles north of Warwick, is pleasingly described in Camden's "Britannia," written in 1586:—"Hard by the River Avon standeth *Guy Cliffe*, the very seat itself of pleasantness. There have ye a shady little wood, cleere and cristall springs, mossy bottomes and caves, medowes alwaies fresh and green, the river rumbling here and there among the stones with his streame making a milde noise and gentle whispering; and, besides all this, solitary and still quietnesse, things most gratefull to the Muses. Heere, as the report goes, that valiant knight and noble worthy, Sir Guy of Warwicke—so much celebrated after he had born the brunt of sundry troubles and atchieved many painful exploits—built a chapell, led an eremit's life, and in the end was buried. Howbeit, wiser men doe think that the place took that name of later time by far, from Guy Beauchamp, Earle of Warwicke; and certain it is, that Richard Beauchamp,

Earle of Warwicke, built St. Margaret's Chapel here, and erected a mighty and giant-like Statue of Stone, resembling the said Guy."

WARWICKSHIRE IN LATER TIMES.—During the sixteenth century many most interesting buildings were erected in Warwickshire, including Pooley Hall, near Tamworth; Weston Park, Shipston-on-Stour; Wormleighton; the Leicester Hospital, at Warwick, &c. Aston Hall (1618) is a fine Elizabethan mansion standing in a northern suburb of Birmingham, and now the property of the corporation.

At the opening of the seventeenth century we find a Warwickshire man—Robert Catesby—acting as the proposer of the "Gunpowder Plot;" and quite lately it has been shown that the famous—or infamous—Guy Fawkes himself hailed from our county. Catesby was born at Bushwood Hall, Lapworth, and it is believed that the details of the plot were arranged there and at Norbrook, Clopton (near Stratford), and Coughton (the seat of the old Roman Catholic family of the Throckmortons). The Princess Elizabeth was then residing at Combe Abbey, near Coventry; and the local conspirators arranged a hunting match at Dunsmore, near Dunchurch, for the 5th of November, intending, as soon as they heard of the success of the Plot, to carry off the Princess and proclaim her Queen of England. When the news of the arrest of Guido Fawkes arrived, the conspirators fled into Staffordshire, where they were pursued and captured at Holbeach, Catesby being shot dead in the attack.

THE CIVIL WAR IN WARWICKSHIRE.—The first battle between the Royal and the Parliamentary forces was fought in 1642, on the plain below Edgehill, near Kineton, in the south-east of Warwickshire. The scene remains almost unchanged; and with the assistance of a few lantern slides (especially if our friend Mr. Jaques would supply moveable bodies of troops for the occasion). the eventful struggle of that day could be pictorially reproduced in a most graphic manner. This would be a novel and interesting way of teaching history.

WARWICKSHIRE WORTHIES.—To illustrate the local incidents connected with the lives of famous men and women who have been born in Warwickshire will be a pleasant task for the camera-carrier. The plain farm-house in Arbury Park, near Nuneaton, acquires a halo when we know it as the birthplace of "George Eliot;" and all the country round is described in her various novels as accurately as in a guide-book. We shall associate the great antiquary—Dugdale, Garter King-at-Arms—with his home at Coleshill; David Cox with the

Birmingham suburb of Harborne ; Bishop Vesey with Sutton Coldfield ; Dr. Priestley (the discoverer of oxygen) with the Birmingham suburb of Sparkbrook ; Dr. Arnold and Rugby School ; Matthew Boulton (who sold " what all the world desired—*power* ") with Birmingham ; Michael Drayton (the poet) with Hartshill ; and many another famous name shall add interest to our work. But, far above all, we possess in Stratford-on-Avon and the neighbouring country such an illustration of the life and work of the immortal Shakespeare that this alone would be sufficient to render Warwickshire one of the most interesting spots of the whole world in the eyes of all civilised nations ! When the first Shakespeare jubilee was held at Stratford in 1768, the most popular song was that written by Garrick, in which the main feature is the connection of the bard with the county :—

" Ye Warwickshire lads, and ye lasses,
See what at our jubilee passes ;
Come revel away, rejoice, and be glad,
For the lad of all lads was a Warwickshire lad,
Warwickshire lad,
All be glad,
For the lad of all lads was a Warwickshire lad."

THE WARWICKSHIRE OF TO-DAY.—And, lastly, we come to our own times. It is clearly our duty to secure, so far as in us lies, a faithful representation of the state of things as it is to-day. For every year we are " making history," and such a record will be just as much prized by posterity, as we should ourselves prize it did it exist for the past. Just think what would be the value of good photographs of Bacon and of Shakespeare ; or of Queen Elizabeth and her minister Cecil. Looking forward into the centuries, we can discern a time when no less value will be assigned to Mrs. Cameron's grand photographs of such men as Herschel and Tennyson ; with those by other workers of our good Queen Victoria, and her " men of mind," Salisbury and Gladstone !

We must accumulate portraits, then, of all our local worthies. And to them we must add street scenes—secured with the hand-camera—from all our towns ; delineations of the avocations of the people must also be obtained—from the country labourer in his smock-frock (a garment now rapidly disappearing) to the skilled artisan of the city, seated before his lathe. Nothing that illustrates contemporary life must be omitted—the policeman, the soldier, and the volunteer must adorn our albums ; and we must go " siumming " to depict the shady side of life.

Most congenial will be the task of recording the cottage and village scenery of Warwickshire. I have travelled round the world, I have spent many holidays in various parts of the British Isles; and I can assert, without fear of contradiction, that for characteristic pictures of rural and home life our county is unequalled. Take the string of Shakespearean villages along the Avon, for example:—

“Piping Pebworth, dancing Marston,
 Haunted Hillborough, hungry Grafton,
 Dudgeing Exhall, Papist Wixford,
 Beggary Broom, and drunken Bidford.”

Let anyone who loves English scenery drive (with his camera under the box-seat) from Warwick, through Charlecote (the home of the Lucys), to Stratford; and thence on to Evesham and Tewkesbury, calling at the villages named in the above *quatrain* (said to have been penned by Shakespeare) *en route*. Let him not hurry—take a fine week in, say, June—and I will answer for it that he will ever afterwards mark that excursion with the whitest of white stones.

In writing this brief account of our county I must acknowledge my indebtedness to Mr. Sam Timmins's recently published “History of Warwickshire;” but I have also studied most of the original authorities from Dugdale to Halliwell. Our noble Free Reference Library contains practically everything that has been published on Warwickshire; and some useful county books are also to be found in the Old Library.

If we are to “survey” Warwickshire in earnest, we must become students as well as photographers (and to my mind this will be one great good resulting from the task); we shall have to think of something else besides the beautiful and the picturesque; and we must remember that its associations may dignify the meanest dwelling, and render of world-wide interest the most prosaic surroundings.

SCIENTIFIC STUDIES FOR WARWICKSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHERS.—Archæology—the study of the past,—and Ethnology—the study of the inhabitants of the district at the present day—we have already touched upon. But there is much work also to be done in Geology, Botany, and Zoology.

THE GEOLOGY OF WARWICKSHIRE.—The coloured maps issued by the Geological Survey show the different strata of which the surface of the county is composed; and in a book which I wrote in 1881* a general description of the rocks of the county will be found.

* “Geology of the Counties of England, and of North and South Wales.” Kelly and Co. Now out of print.

Every landscape depends for its main outlines upon the rocks which lie beneath the soil; and for those who can "read the rocks" the study of the scenery of any district has a double pleasure. The oldest rocks of Warwickshire are the Cambrian quartzites and shales which lie between Atherstone and Nuneaton. These had been wrongly assigned to the Carboniferous period by the Geological Survey, and the discovery of their true age was made by Professor Lapworth and myself in 1882. The quartzites (altered sandstones) are magnificently exposed in a series of immense quarries, and they are traversed by great masses of dark igneous rocks. The shales are well seen in the Stockingford railway cutting.

In the Warwickshire coal-field, photographs of the surface works, collieries, and colliers might be secured; while, descending beneath the surface, the flash-light would enable us to secure interesting records of the mines and miners.

Of the Triassic strata which succeed, there is a fine section of the red sandstone, sixty feet in vertical height, at Hockley Cemetery, in Birmingham. Elsewhere the Triassic rocks are but seldom exposed, and we must be content with noting the level plains and rolling hills produced by their marls and sandstone.

The Liassic strata—limestones and clays—which rest upon the Trias, are quarried at Wilmcote, Binton, etc., in South Warwickshire. The fossils contained in these and in other local rocks, of which there is a grand series in the Warwick Museum and in the Museum of the Mason College, Birmingham, will form interesting subjects for our cameras.

Lastly, we have the Drift, including those confused beds of clay and sand often containing great blocks of rock (erratics) which have been conveyed from Wales or from Scotland by the agency of ice during the glacial epoch. The immense boulder which lies in Cannon Hill Park (Birmingham) is a fine example of such a travelled block; but there are hundreds of others, and they are continually being destroyed—the farmers blow them up with dynamite. So, too, with the sections—the quarries, railway cuttings, etc.—where the solid rocks are finely exposed. They change from day to day, until at last they are grassed over and lost. Let it be our task, by the aid of photography, to record their features for ever for the students of geology.*

* See paper on "Aid Rendered by Photography to Geology," by W. J. Harrison, "Photographic News" for 2nd October, 1885.

THE BOTANY OF WARWICKSHIRE.—The flora of our county has been carefully studied and described by Messrs. William Mathews, M.A., J. E. Bagnall, A.L.S., W. B. Grove, M.A., and other specialists. Artists have long visited our parks—Packington Park especially—to portray the grand old trees which adorn them, remnants of the old forest of Arden. Photography can admirably record every twig and leaf. It is certain that good photographs of plants, especially if taken while growing in their native haunts, would help to vivify the dry leaves of herbaria, and they would be much valued by those who study and teach botany. I have seen some exquisite work in this direction done by one of our members, Mr. Charles Pumphrey. Let me advise those who make this branch a speciality to photograph trees either early or late in the day, when the nearly horizontal rays illuminate their trunks. Let photographs of the same tree be taken at different seasons of the year; then shall you be able to prepare a series of “dissolving views,” in which the tree shall be shown to bud and blossom, be covered with leaves, and anon be bare, yet beautiful with frost-rime.

ZOOLOGY OF WARWICKSHIRE.—In the minute life which occupies our ponds and ditches there is a never-ending field of work for the photographer who combines the camera with the microscope. Some of us know, too, that it is better fun to hunt with the camera than with the gun; and we hope to be able to photograph the local birds, etc., in their native haunts, and so to secure pictures which shall surpass the best efforts of the taxidermist.

METHODS OF CONDUCTING THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY OF A DISTRICT.

There are several ways in which the photographic survey of any district may be carried out.

I.—First we have what may be called the “no method.” Each member of the society or body by which the survey is to be carried out wanders at will over the district, photographing whatever pleases his eye, and sending in his negatives or prints to the managing committee. It is not necessary to point out the demerits of such a scheme.

II.—If there is any good, modern, and tolerably cheap county history in existence, it might well furnish the groundwork for a general photo-survey. Lists of all the places and objects named in its pages should be drawn up, and grouped according to locality; each division being then allotted to those workers who have volunteered their services. For

Warwickshire the recent publication of an admirable County History,* by Mr. Sam Timmins, offers a capital opportunity, the more especially as the book itself contains no illustrations. Any member who wishes to form a very valuable and interesting volume can do so by pulling Mr. Timmins's book to pieces (which is just what its reviewers have *not* done), interleaving it with a series of illustrations such as I have suggested, and then having it rebound.

III.—But for an exhaustive photo-survey of Warwickshire, or of any other district, I believe the plan must be based upon a large-scale and accurate map; and we must go to Nature herself for our illustrations. Fortunately we are now provided with a map or maps (the work of the Government Ordnance Survey), which are in every respect admirable.

(a.) THE OLD ONE-INCH ORDNANCE MAP.—Warwickshire was mapped on the scale of one inch to one mile as long ago as 1830. This map is sold in "quarter sheets" at one shilling each, each quarter sheet including about 160 square miles. The entire county on this scale makes a map 59in. by 42in., which is sold in sheets for 17s. 6d.

(b.) THE NEW ONE-INCH ORDNANCE MAP.—The map described in the last paragraph is now, in some respects, out of date. But a new one-inch map is being prepared (by reduction from the six-inch map) which will be a great improvement. It will be similar in size and price to the old one-inch map. We can hardly expect to have this map for Warwickshire for a period of several years.

(c.) THE SIX-INCH ORDNANCE MAP.—This is the ideal map for the work of a photo-survey. Its large scale (six inches to every mile) allows every field, and even every tree, to be depicted. The orientation of buildings is clearly shown, so that the photographer can see beforehand when the light will fall suitably upon any building, ruin, etc., that he may have to travel a long distance to photograph. The issue of the Warwickshire map on this scale is very nearly complete. The county is contained in 200 quarter-sheets, each measuring 18in. by 12in., and including six square miles. They are sold at one shilling each, and 195 have been published.

(d.) THE PARISH MAPS are on the still larger scale of twenty-five inches to a mile. Four of these parish maps contain an area equal to one quarter sheet of the six-inch map. Each parish map measures 38in. by 25½in., and contains an area of a little more than 1½ square miles. These

* Published by Elliot Stock, price 7s. 6d.

also are all but complete for Warwickshire; and in some cases, as in Stratford, the ruins of Kenilworth, etc., they will be very useful to the photo-surveyor.

(*e.*) Lastly, there are the town plans, on the scale of 125 inches to a mile.

PLAN NOW PROPOSED FOR THE PHOTO-SURVEY OF WARWICKSHIRE.

1.—A committee must be appointed by whom the details of the plan can be formulated.

2.—The maps of the county on the six-inch scale must be purchased. For each sheet of the map there must also be a light cardboard box* bearing the same number as the map. In this box, mounted prints of all the photographs taken from objects contained in that sheet of the map should be kept.

A similarly numbered set of negative boxes† would be needed to contain the negatives belonging to each sheet of the map.

3.—All photographers who would be willing to place their services at the disposal of the society should send their names (in pairs if preferred) to the committee.

4.—The committee would decide on a certain patch of country to be surveyed—say that included on twelve sheets of the six-inch map, if twenty-four names were received. They would then allot the maps by ballot or otherwise among the workers, giving one map to each pair.

5.—Let us suppose that two friends, A and B, are allotted a certain area, say that contained in one quarter sheet of the six-inch map, including an area of six square miles.

They carefully study the map and draw up lists of the promising points. They read up the history of any churches, ruins, or other monuments of the past included within it. Then they visit it for the first time, *without their cameras*. They walk across and across the district, calling perhaps at the inns, the farm house, or the rectory, gaining information and jotting down places and times when the light will be favourable. On their next visit they are accompanied by their cameras, and the negatives necessary to illustrate the area—perhaps only two or three, perhaps ten or twenty—are soon secured; or a second and third visit are paid if necessary.

* Those sold for holding pamphlets, papers, etc., by Stone, of Banbury, would answer well for this purpose.

† Those made by Arundel and Marshall, Penn Street Works, Hoxton, London, are recommended.

Prints are then taken and lantern slides made, and the results are handed over to the committee.

6.—If a sufficient number of subscribers could be obtained, it would be very desirable to publish, perhaps monthly or quarterly, a selection of the most interesting photographs obtained, accompanied by descriptive letterpress. There must be many people in the county who would prize such a local record.

7.—The principal books and works of reference upon the county should be added to the library of the Society; and lists of the large collections of books, etc., on the same subjects contained in the local libraries, should be posted on the walls of the club rooms.

8.—One night in each week might be considered a "rendezvous night," on which all who were interested in the work of the survey should meet at the club rooms; and on (say) one evening in each session of the Society there might be a more public display of the results which were being obtained. The year's work in this direction would naturally form an important feature of the Society's annual exhibition.

SOCIETY EXCURSIONS UTILISED.—Everybody knows the routine of an ordinary excursion of a photographic society. Some well-known spot is selected, the further away the better, as North Wales, Dovedale, Haddon Hall, etc. If the day is fine twenty or thirty members attend, and they go round the place in a crowd, occupying themselves to a large extent in getting in, and out of, one another's way.

I would suggest that the excursions be made local, and that a routine of work be drawn up beforehand, in which each detachment of three or four members should be assigned some particular task to accomplish. Thus in a half-day excursion to Warwick, suppose twenty camera-carriers present themselves; let this number be divided into five sets of four members each, the tasks being as follows:—(1) The Castle and Grounds; (2) St. Mary's Church, including the Beauchamp Chapel; (3) the Leicester Hospital; (4) the Town of Warwick generally, its two gates and old buildings; (5) Guy's Cliff. Given a fine June afternoon, and the work of the survey for that town might be accomplished very rapidly on this plan. But it supposes that a full programme, showing the work of each section of the party, be drawn up beforehand and distributed.

UTILISATION OF WORK ALREADY DONE.—There are probably in existence already some hundreds, or even thousands, of photographic negatives which would be of service in the history of Warwickshire. It must be part of our task to

draw up a list of such negatives, showing their subjects, their owners, etc. Some of them may, perhaps, be acquired by gift, loan, or purchase. A separate record book should be kept for those negatives which are already in existence; and a circular asking for information on this subject might be addressed to the professional photographers of the county.

DOCUMENTS, ETC., COPIED BY PHOTOGRAPHY.—We must photograph not only places, but things. Old documents, seals, plans, maps, various objects of antiquity, rare fossils, etc. All these will provide food for the camera, and will add interesting pictures to our stock. One advantage of photography in this direction is that it enables us to *bring together*, for purposes of comparison, a series of objects which may be scattered in many collections. The facsimiles of documents, etc., obtained by photographic processes, are far more valuable than copies by hand can be, since they must be literal and unbiassed; errors in copying are avoided, and the evidence of the photograph is practically as good (sometimes, indeed, it is better, because clearer) as that of the original.

SIZE OF PHOTOGRAPHS TO BE TAKEN.—I fear it will be impossible to bind ourselves down to any definite size of negative. Perhaps it would be best to make the whole-plate size ($8\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $6\frac{1}{2}$ in.) our standard. By the recent substitution of celluloid films for glass plates, the weight of the photographer's equipment has been greatly diminished; so that a whole-plate camera with films, weighs no more than a half-plate camera with glass plates.

By the use of cases or boxes to hold separately mounted prints, the difficulty of variety of sizes is largely avoided. If albums are made up, they could be of such a size as to hold one whole-plate print, or two half-plates, on each page.

For hand-camera work the usual size is the quarter-plate ($4\frac{1}{4}$ in. by $3\frac{1}{4}$ in.); and for pictures of this size separate albums might be provided, or they might be mounted four on a page of the larger albums. It must be remembered, however, that it is easy to enlarge or reduce negatives, so that they could all be brought to one uniform size if that were thought desirable. Or it is even easier to enlarge or reduce the prints as they are made from the negatives, if we use bromide-paper, etc., for printing upon.

HOW OTHER SOCIETIES (LITERARY, ARTISTIC, AND SCIENTIFIC) CAN AID IN THE WORK OF THE COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.—I trust that it may be assumed that the three photographic societies already in existence in Warwickshire, viz., the

Birmingham Photographic Society—Hon. Secs., Mr. J. H. Pickard, 361, Moseley Road, Birmingham, and Mr. A. J. Leeson, 20, Cannon Street, Birmingham;

Leamington Amateur Photographic Society—Hon. Sec., Mr. F. M. Gowan, 20, Beauchamp Square, Leamington;

Coventry and Midland Photographic Society—Hon. Sec., Mr. F. W. Dew, The City Studio, Coventry;

will do all they can for the work of a photo-survey; but very valuable assistance can be rendered by several other societies within the county, whose aim is the furtherance of Literature, Science, and Art.

Among these I may name—

The Vesey Club, Sutton Coldfield.—Hon. Sec., Mr. C. H. Marston.

The Archæological Section of the Birmingham and Midland Institute.—Secretary of the Section, Mr. Jethro A. Cossins, Colmore Row.

The Birmingham Natural History and Microscopical Society.—Hon. Secs., Mr. W. H. Wilkinson and Mr. W. P. Marshall, M.I.C.E., The Mason College.

The Birmingham Philosophical Society (1876).—Hon. Secs., Professor J. H. Poynting, F.R.S., 11, St. Augustine's Road, Edgbaston; and Mr. C. A. Davison, M.A., King Edward's High School, New Street.

The Birmingham and Midland Institute Scientific Society.—Hon. Sec., Mr. W. E. Weaver, 221, Broad Street. This Society has a Photographic Section.

Birmingham Microscopists' and Naturalists' Union (1880).—Hon. Secs., Messrs. Collins and White, Broad Street Corner.

Birmingham Architectural Association (1873).—Hon. Sec., Mr. H. R. Lloyd, A.R.I.B.A., 26, Corporation Street.

Birmingham School Natural History Society, King Edward's High School, New Street.

Birmingham Botanical and Horticultural Society. Botanical Gardens, Edgbaston.—Curator, Mr. W. B. Latham.

Warwickshire Field Club (1858).—President, the Rev. P. B. Brodie, M.A., F.G.S., Rowington Vicarage; Head Quarters, The Museum, Warwick.

Tamworth Natural History, Geological, and Antiquarian Society.

Royal (Birmingham) Society of Artists, New Street.—Secretary, Mr. Jonathan Pratt.

Kyrle Society.—Hon. Sec., Miss Gittins, 87, Hagley Road.

Association for the Preservation of Open Spaces and Public Footpaths.—Hon. Sec., Mr. Grosvenor Lee. 18, Newhall Street.

Art Circle.—Hon. Sec., Mr. E. Chamberlain, Burlington Chambers, New Street.

The Midland Arts Club.—Hon. Sec., Mr. W. H. Vernon (meetings at Grand Hotel, Colmore Row).

Municipal School of Art, Edmund Street.—Head Master, Mr. E. R. Taylor; Secretary, Mr. E. Preston Hytch.

HOW ANTIQUARIANS, SCIENTISTS, ETC., CAN AID IN THE WORK OF A COUNTY PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.—Now, although we photographers may know *how* to photograph, we do not always know *what* to photograph. We want the historian and the antiquary, the literary man, the artist, and the scientist, to aid us in this. We want these students of the past and the present to draw up lists of places and objects in each square of our map which they consider ought to be recorded; and we want them to tell us all about them, so that the pictures we secure may be of interest to us as well as to them.

ASSISTANCE FROM LANDOWNERS, RESIDENTS, ETC.—The nature of our work ought to secure aid and assistance from occupiers in all parts of the county. Armed with an introduction, stating the object and plan of this survey, the photographer may hope to be afforded facilities for his work which he would otherwise scarcely venture to ask for. Those who occupy historically interesting or beautifully situated places, will certainly be willing to aid in such a task, which may really be called national; while to the guardians of our churches—the clergy—our scheme should appeal with special interest.

REQUIRED FUNDS TO BE OBTAINED BY SUBSCRIPTIONS AND GRANTS.—In the work here proposed it is thought that all the workers will be willing to help, not only by paying their own travelling expenses, purchase of dry-plates on which to make negatives, use of apparatus, etc., but also by subscribing to raise the funds which will be necessary for the purchase of maps, albums, cases, etc., and the defraying of the cost of printing in platinotype, etc., and making lantern slides.

It does not seem unreasonable, however, to ask for subscriptions from all who are interested in such a survey. Our own Society will, it may be hoped, make a grant in aid; and, doubtless, if a portion of the work is done as a sample, and well done, assistance will not be wanting.

THE END OF A PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY.—In the way of work to be done, there could be no end. Every day sees some change, something of the old order is blotted out, something new is introduced. A railway is made across our pet landscape, and we must photograph the trail of black smoke from the engine, if it be only to send the picture to Mr. Ruskin. How rapidly the features of our towns are changing must be obvious to the most careless observer; and anyone who has been absent from the new city for but a few years has good cause to sing the old song, "I can't find Birmingham!"

But the term "end" may also be considered in the sense of "object." What shall be done with our photographs when we get them? Well, this Society should retain at least two complete sets—a working set and one for reference. Complete sets ought also to be prepared for our Municipal Reference Library, for the British Museum, and for any other public institutions who desired a set and were willing to pay for it.

Our schools would value highly a selection of large photographs; and enlargements might be made for this and other special objects, as for exhibition on the walls of our free libraries, for teaching and for lecturing purposes, etc.

Further, it appears to me that the pursuance of a task such as I have attempted to sketch out, would unite the members of this Society as only men are united who have a definite object in view, and who work for a common end. It would attract, it may be hoped, new workers to join our ranks; and would add to the status of the Society in the eyes of the public. Much energy which is now frittered away would be diverted into a useful channel; and although it may be said that the main benefits of our work will be reaped by a posterity "which has never done anything for us," yet I feel confident that we shall derive as much pleasure from *doing* the work, as our descendants will from its *study* and *examination*.

APPENDIX.

BIRMINGHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY.

A Special General Meeting was held at the Society's Rooms, Grand Hotel, Colmore Row, on December 11th, to "consider the feasibility of making a Photographic Survey of Warwickshire, the object being to secure an accurate and unbiassed record of the scenery, monuments, life, natural history facts, &c., of the county as they now exist." Mr. J. B. Stone, J.P., F.L.S., F.G.S., presided, and there was a good attendance, including representatives from most of the scientific, literary, and artistic societies in the county.

The circular convening the meeting having been read by the Hon. Sec. (Mr. J. H. Pickard), Mr. Stone said that he took this opportunity of returning them thanks for the honour they had done him in electing him as their president, in succession to a man so distinguished in science as Dr. Hill Norris. He called attention to the splendid work done photographically in connection with the geological survey of the United States, and expressed the opinion that there was no branch of science in which photography could not render most useful aid.

Mr. W. Jerome Harrison, F.G.S., then read his paper entitled "Some Notes upon the Proposed Photographic Survey of Warwickshire." (See above.)

The President proposed the following resolution from the chair:— "That a committee be appointed consisting of the Council of the Birmingham Photographic Society, together with representatives from each local society (scientific, literary, or artistic) which is willing to co-operate, to consider the best means of making a photographic survey of Warwickshire, and to report to a future meeting."

He urged the necessity for carrying out the scheme, describing the manner in which objects of the greatest interest were continually disappearing, from decay, accident, &c., and giving as illustrations the "ducking stool" in the crypt of St. Mary's Church, at Warwick; the old chair at Astley Castle used by the Duke of Suffolk when he hid in a tree to escape capture; and the portraits of the conspirators in the Gunpowder Plot which are in Combe Abbey.

Professor Hillhouse (Mason College) seconded the resolution, saying that he thoroughly believed in photographic surveys. At the Mason College the plan which he had urged of each professor being photographed on joining the staff, had already given interesting results. Speaking as a botanist, he said that a photograph of *Osmunda regalis* growing on boggy ground at Moseley, near Birmingham, would furnish a proof that could not be gainsaid that the plant really did once grow there, a fact which was now disputed. In attempts to acclimatise plants, photographs taken at frequent intervals would be of great service. He strongly emphasised the statement which had been made by the President that there must be no "doctoring" or "retouching" of any of the work done in connection with the survey.

Mr. Jethro Cossins (Archæological Section of Midland Institute) said that the charming village scenery of Warwickshire was changing with a rapidity which few imagined. Again, he quite lately found a farmer near Hartshill pulling down a small Norman chapel which formed part of an ancient castle. The churches of Warwickshire had already for the most part been "restored"; so that such a scheme as this photographic survey was wanted long ago.

Councillor Andrews (President Coventry Photographic Society) sympathised with the scheme, but thought it was rather an enormous one. Of one ancient church in Coventry alone he had secured 120 negatives before its restoration. He hoped, however, that the movement might be carried to a successful issue.

Messrs. H. Sturmey and F. W. Dew (Coventry) agreed with Mr. Andrews; and Mr. Sturmey proposed that the committee to be appointed should report to another meeting to be held at an early date as to the exact manner in which the survey should be carried out. This was agreed to, and words to that effect were incorporated in the resolution.

Mr. E. C. Middleton said that the scheme had his entire sympathy and support. The pictures must be printed by a permanent process, and the use of wide-angle lenses must be avoided as much as possible.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The President then proposed:—"That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Jerome Harrison for his admirable paper; and that it be printed and distributed to the members of this society, to other photographic societies, and to the press." This was seconded by Mr. W. B. Grove, M.A. (late President of the Birmingham Natural History Society). He urged the importance of photo-micrography, especially of a tribe of plants in which he was much interested—the Fungi. The motion was carried, and suitably acknowledged by Mr. Harrison.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the President, proposed by Mr. B. Karleese, and seconded by Councillor Andrews.

In addition to the names mentioned above we noticed among those present, Mr. Jonathan Pratt (Royal Society of Artists), Councillor Wallis, Drs. Nicol and Donovan, Messrs. J. H. Stone, H. J. Whitlock, S. E. Baker, J. E. Bagnall (Microscopical Society), J. Landon, F.G.S., J. Udall, F.G.S., E. W. Badger, W. H. Vernon (Midland Arts Club); in addition to E. H. Jaques (V. P.), A. J. Leeson (Hon. Sec.), and many members of the Birmingham Photographic Society.



